

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for withdrawing the rejections set forth in the October 1, 2004 *Office Action*.

Status of the Application

Claims 1-18 are all the claims pending in the Application, as claims 16-18 are hereby added. Claims 1-15 stand rejected.

Drawings

The Examiner has requested that Figure 10 be labeled “Prior Art.” Applicants respectfully disagree, as Figure 10 is indicated to be an alternative embodiment of the invention, as discussed on page 9 of the specification. Thus, Applicants respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

Obviousness Rejection

The Examiner has rejected, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a): (1) claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 and 14 as being obvious over *Guss, III* (US 5,062,807; hereinafter “*Guss*”) in view of *Fuchs et al.* (US 6,652,293; hereinafter “*Fuchs*”); (2) claim 2 as being unpatentable over *Guss* in view of *Fuchs* and *Boyle* (US 5,620,333; hereinafter “*Boyle*”); (3) claim 4 as being unpatentable over *Guss* in view of *Fuchs* and *Arnett* (US 5,238,426; hereinafter “*Arnett*”); and (4) claims 5, 6, 9, 12 and 15 as being unpatentable over *Guss* in view of *Fuchs*, *Arnett* and *Archer* (US 5,125,852; hereinafter “*Archer*”). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Independent Claims 1, 3 and 4

Applicants respectfully submit that the applied references fail to teach or suggest independent claim 1, 3 and 4’s recitation of “a discrete connection terminal connected to said

circuitry pattern on said board and to at least one conductor among said conductors of said cable, extending in a first direction therebetween, and comprising opposite ends in the first direction which terminate within the auxiliary machinery”

Specifically, contact 23 of *Guss*, which the Examiner alleges to have some correspondence to the recited “connection terminal” of independent claims 1, 3 and 4, does not have “opposite ends in the first direction which terminate within the auxiliary machinery.” Rather, contact 23 extends to an outer side of *Guss*’s connector assembly 10 (see FIG. 4) for connection thereto, and therefore is not “within the auxiliary machinery.” The secondarily applied references, *Fuchs*, *Boyle*, *Arnett* and *Archer* are equally deficient in this regard.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1, 3 and 4 are patentable over the applied references. Further, Applicants respectfully submit that rejected dependent claims 2 and 5-15 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that the applied references fail to teach or suggest dependent claim 10-12’s recitations that “two molded parts are provided, each one arranged to seal one of the opposite end portions of said connection terminal in the first direction.” Rather, at least one end portion of contact 23 of *Guss* is not sealed (see FIG. 4).

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

New Claims

Claims 16-18 are hereby added. Claims 16-18 are fully supported *at least* by FIG. 5 of the instant Application. Claims 16-18 are respectfully submitted to be allowable both by virtue of their dependency, and by virtue of the features recited therein.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-18 are allowable.
Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 1-18.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,



Timothy P. Cremen
Registration No. 50,855

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 2, 2005